

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A rail and supported panel assembly comprising:

2 a first rail portion and a second rail portion, each portion having a constant cross section, the cross section defining an elongate recessed channel on an underside;

4 a panel supported at a top edge thereof within the recessed channel of either one of the first and second rail portions;

6 a first post for supporting the first and second rail portions; and

8 second rails, the connection assembly having:

10 a pair of partially overlapping arms, each a first arm fitting wholly or

12 substantially within a respective the recessed channel of the first rail portion, and a

14 second arm fitting wholly or substantially within the recessed channel of the second rail

16 portion; and

18 a primary fastener having a shaft, the shaft passing through a hole within

an overlapping portion of each of the arms thereby providing a pivot about which the

arms can be adjusted, the shaft extending into the post so as to secure the arms with

respect to the post;

wherein the arms are movable with respect to each other about the pivot to

18 accommodate a range of first and second rail portion alignment angles.

2. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 1 further
2 comprising secondary fasteners connecting each of the arms to ~~its~~the respective rail
portion to which the arm is fitted.

3. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 2 wherein the
2 secondary fasteners are rivets, each rivet penetrating though ~~its~~the arm up to ~~its~~the
respective rail portion to which the arm is fitted.

4. (Previously Presented) An assembly according to claim 2 wherein the
2 post is hollow and has internal walls shaped to receive an insert.

5. (Original) An assembly according to claim 4 further comprising a locking
2 member for locking the connection assembly to the first post, the locking member
comprising the insert, wherein the locking member is actuated by the primary fastener to
4 grip the internal walls.

6. (Original) An assembly according to claim 5 wherein the insert comprises
2 an upper portion defining a through hole and a lower portion defining a threaded hole for
receiving a thread on the shaft, the through hole and shaft sized to provide relative
4 clearance,

wherein the upper and lower portions join at inclined engaging faces that slide
6 relative to each other when forced together by tightening of the primary fastener, so as to
cause the insert to grip the internal walls.

7. (Currently Amended) A rail-to-post connection assembly for connecting a hollow post to a rail or a pair of rails, a hollow within the post defined by internal walls, the connection assembly having:

2 a pair of partially overlapping arms;

4 an insert shaped to fit partially or wholly within the hollow of the post;

6 a primary fastener having a shaft, the shaft passing through a hole within an overlapping portion of each of the arms into the insert thereby providing a pivot about

8 which the arms can be adjusted to accommodate a range of alignment angles for connection to the rail or rails; and

10 a locking means for locking the insert to the post, the locking means comprising
an upper portion of the insert defining a through hole and a lower portion of the insert
defining a threaded hole for receiving a thread on the shaft, the through hole and shaft
sized to provide relative clearance;

12 wherein the positionsposition of each of the arms is lockable with respect to the insert and the insert is lockable with respect to the internal walls of the post by a

14 single action of tightening the primary fastener.

8. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 7 wherein

2 the locking means comprises an upper portion of the insert defining a through hole and a lower portion of the insert defining a threaded hole for receiving a thread on the shaft, the

4 through hole and shaft sized to provide relative clearance;

wherein the upper and lower portions of the insert join at inclined engaging faces that

6 slide relative to each other when forced together by tightening of the primary fastener, so
as to cause lateral movement of the upper portion of the insert relative to the lower
8 portion and the insert to grip the internal walls thereby.

10 9. (Original) An assembly according to claim 8 wherein the primary fastener
2 is a threaded bolt having a head that recesses within the uppermost of the two arm.

10. (Original) An assembly according to claim 9 wherein each of the arms
2 defines at least one fastener hole for receiving a secondary fastener.

11. (Original) An assembly according to claim 10 wherein the holes are
2 shaped to receive a countersunk rivet or screw.

12. (Cancelled)

2 13. (Cancelled)

2 14. (Previously Presented) An assembly according to claim 3 wherein the
2 post is hollow and has internal walls shaped to receive an insert.

15. (Previously Presented) An assembly according to claim 14 further
2 comprising a locking member for locking the connection assembly to the first post, the

locking member comprising the insert, wherein the locking member is actuated by the
4 primary fastener to grip the internal walls.

16. (Previously Presented) An assembly according to claim 14 wherein the
2 insert comprises an upper portion defining a through hole and a lower portion defining a
threaded hole for receiving a thread on the shaft, the through hole and shaft sized to
4 provide relative clearance, wherein the upper and lower portions join at inclined engaging
faces that slide relative to each other when forced together by tightening of the primary
6 fastener, so as to cause the insert to grip the internal walls.

17. (Previously Presented) An assembly according to claim 15 wherein the
2 insert comprises an upper portion defining a through hole and a lower portion defining a
threaded hole for receiving a thread on the shaft, the through hole and shaft sized to
4 provide relative clearance, wherein the upper and lower portions join at inclined engaging
faces that slide relative to each other when forced together by tightening of the primary
6 fastener, so as to cause the insert to grip the internal walls.